

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 IO-14 AID-20 DRC-01 /126 W

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R 120715Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO COMUSSAG NKP THAILAND

CINCPAC HONOLULU

SECSTATE WASHDC 7672

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 10561

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, VS

SUBJ: COMMUNIST ATTACKS IN NORTHERN BIEN HOA PROVINCE

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON INFO USDAO SAIGON ACG CANTHO,
DANANG, NHA TRANG FROM BIEN HOA AUG 10 REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION.

QUOTE

BIEN HOA 425

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, VS

SUBJ: COMMUNIST ATTACKS IN NORTHERN BIEN HOA PROVINCE

1. IN THE PAST 48 HOURS COMMUNIST FORCES HAVE STEPPED UP
ACTIVITY IN NORTHERN BIEN HOA PROVINCE. NVA/VC ELEMENTS BELIEVED
BY MR 3 G-2 TO BE FROM THE 209TH REGT, 7TH NVA DIVISION HAVE
OVERRUN TWO OUTPOSTS IN THE VICINITY OF THE BIEN HOA "ROCKET BELT".
IN THE WAKE OF THE 25 ROUND ROCKET ATTACK DURING THE MORNING OF
AUGUST 10, COMMUNIST GUNNERS AGAIN DIRECTED THEIR FIRE AGAINST THE
BIEN HOA TOWN AREA; ON AUGUST 10 AT 1210 4 ROCKETS IMPACTED IN
THE VICINITY OF THE AIRBASE, AND ON AUGUST 11 AT 0845 5 ROCKETS
IMPACTED IN THE VICINITY OF THE AIRBASE. PRELIMINARY REPORTS
INDICATE NO CASUALTIES AND NO SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE.

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2. ATTACKS BY FIRE AND GROUND CONTACTS WERE REPORTED THROUGH-
OUT TAN UYEN AND CONG THANH DISTRICTS. THE FOLLOWING ARE THE
MAJOR INCIDENTS REPORTED: A) ON AUGUST 9 AT 2120 A COMMUNIST FORCE
SHELLED AND OVERRAN THE 25-MAN HO DA RF OUTPOST LOCATED 5 KMS
WEST OF TAN UYEN DISTRICT TOWN AT XT 910235 WITH RF CASUALTIES SET
AT 7 KIA, 3 WIA, AND 3 MIA. B) ON AUGUST 10 AT 0130 A COMPANY-SIZE
NVA/VC UNIT ATTACKED AN RF OUTPOST AT YT 106234 NEAR THAI HUNG
VILLAGE, CONG THANH DISTRICT KILLING 5 RF AND WOUNDING 11.
CONTRARY TO INITIAL REPORTS, THAI HUNG VILLAGE IS STILL IN GVN
HANDS AND HAS BEEN REINFORCED BY 2 PF PLTS. C) ON AUGUST 10
AT 0530 AN RF OUTPOST LOCATED 3 KMS NORTH OF TAN UYEN DISTRICT
TOWN AT XT 974264 WAS ATTACKED AND SUFFERED 12 WOUNDED AND 5

MISSING. ACCORDING TO SECTOR THIS POSITION HAS BEEN REINFORCED
WITH ADDITIONAL RF TROOPS. D) ON AUGUST 10 AT 0600 COMMUNIST
FORCES SHELLED APPROXIMATELY 200 ROUNDS OF 82MM MORTAR AND 107
ROCKET AGAINST AN RF COMPANY LOCATED AT CUOC DAT OUTPOST
(YT003245). THE POST FELL AT 101125H WITH RF LOSSES SET AT 4 KIA,
12 WIA, AND 5 MIA. BIEN HOA SECTOR INTENDS TO ATTEMPT TO RE-TAKE
THIS POSITION ON AUGUST 11. E) ON AUGUST 10 AT 1410 COMMUNIST
FORCES SHELLED 20 ROUNDS OF 82MM MORTAR AGAINST THE HEADQUARTERS
OF THE 52ND INF REGT, 18TH DIV POSITIONED 9 KMS NW OF TAN UYEN
TOWN ON LTL 16 (XT 942268) RESULTING IN NO CASUALTIES BUT DAMAGE
TO FIVE TRUCKS.

3. MR 3 HQ BELIVES THE ATTACKS ARE BEING CARRIED OUT BY ELEMENTS
OF THE 7TH NVA DIVISION WITH THE INTENTION OF ESTABLISHING A BASE
AREA IN NORTHERN BIEN HOA PROVINCE FROM WHICH TO CONDUCT ABF'S
AGAINST THE BIEN HOA AIRFIELD. THE BIEN HOA PROVINCE CHIEF
CURRENTLY HAS 4 RF BNS DEPLOYED IN THE NORTHERN AREA AND SEVERAL
PF PLATOONS. HE IS CONCERNED OVER THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS BUT
FEELS HE CAN CONTROL THE SITUATION. SOME FAMILITES HAVE LEFT
THAI HUNG VILLAGE AND HAVE JOINED THEIR NORTHERN CATHOLIC RELATIVES
AND FRIENDS IN HO NAI VILLAGE TO THE SOUTH ON ROUTE 1 BUT IN THE
BIEN HOA CAPITAL IN GENERAL LIFE IS GOING ON IN A NORMAL MANNER.

4. IN BINH DUONG PROVINCE THERE HAS BEEN A CONTINUATION OF
NUMEROUS BUT LIGHT ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT BEN CAT AND PHU GIAO
DISTRICTS BUT NO MAJOR ENEMY ASSAULTS. BOTH THE SONG BE BRIDGE
POSITION SOUTH OF PHU GIAO DISTRICT TOWN AND BEN CAT SUBSECTOR
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HAVE RECEIVED LIGHT (ONE TO FIVE ROUNDS) 105 HOWITZER SHELLING
IN THE LAST FEW DAYS. TAY NINH PROVINCE REMAINS RELATIVELY QUIET
AND THE 5TH NVA DIVISION DEPLOYEDYUN NEIGHBORING CAMBODIA HAS
NOT YET ENGAGED IN ANY MAJOR OFFENSIVE ACTIVITY. SIGNED
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UNQUOTE.
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